

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. An information system providing information relating to a
2 specified site, to users of the specified site, comprising:
3 a communications network serving a service area within the
4 site;
5 a server coupled to the communications network, the server
6 including a database of information relating to specific locations within
7 the site, including a geoencoded map of the site, and including
8 information relating to the site;
9 a terminal device including a processor and a display, the
10 terminal device in communications with the communications network and
11 configured to access information relating to the site from the server by a
12 user of the site; and
13 a user interface provided on the display of the terminal
14 device, the user interface including user selectable options and configured
15 to selectively provide site user information to a site user, including access
16 to the database of information on the server.
- 1 2. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is a resort.
- 1 3. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is a ski resort.
- 1 4. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is an airport.
- 1 5. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is a convention center.

1 6. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is an amusement park.

1 7. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is a campus.

1 8. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified
2 site is a cruise ship.

1 9. The information system of Claim 1, wherein the terminal
2 device is a handheld computer including a radio frequency transceiver.

1 10. The information system of Claim 9, wherein the
2 communications network includes at least one RF transceiver coupled
3 thereto and configured to provide communications with the handheld
4 computer.

1 11. The information system of Claim 10, wherein the RF
2 transceiver of the handheld computer and the RF transceiver of the
3 communications network are configured to use IEEE 802.11 standards.

1 12. An information system providing information relating to a
2 specified site, to users of the specified site, comprising:

3 a communications network serving a service area within the
4 site;

5 a server coupled to the communications network, the server
6 including a database of information relating to locations within the site,
7 information relating to the site and information relating to users of the
8 site;

9 a navigation database external to the communications
10 network and in communication with the communications network, the

11 navigation database including information relating to locations outside of
12 the specified site;

13 a terminal device including a processor and a display, the
14 terminal device in communications with the communications network and
15 configured to access information from the server; and

16 a user interface provided on the display of the terminal
17 device, the user interface including user selectable options and configured
18 to selectively provide site user information to a site user.

1 13. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is a resort.

1 14. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is a ski resort.

1 15. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is an airport.

1 16. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is a convention center.

1 17. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is an amusement park.

1 18. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is a campus.

1 19. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified
2 site is a cruise ship.

1 20. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the terminal
2 device is a handheld computer including a radio frequency transceiver.

1 21. The information system of Claim 20, wherein the
2 communications network includes at least one RF transceiver coupled
3 thereto and configured to provide communications with the handheld
4 computer.

1 22. The information system of Claim 21, wherein the RF
2 transceiver of the handheld computer and the RF transceiver of the
3 communications network are configured to use IEEE 802.11 standards.

1 23. A method of providing information to users of a specified
2 site, comprising the steps of:
3 receiving a request for information relating to the site from a
4 terminal device over a communication network specifically serving the
5 site;
6 searching a database for the requested information relating
7 to the site;
8 generating a result of the requested information; and
9 transmitting the resulting information to the terminal device
10 used by a user of the site that initiated the request for information.

1 24. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the request for information is transmitted over a wireless communications
3 link with the communications network

1 25. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the results of the database search for the requested information are
3 transmitted over a wireless communications link with the communications
4 network.

1 26. The method of providing information of Claim 23 further
2 comprising:

3 receiving a global positioning system (GPS) signal; and
4 generating a location based on the GPS signal.

1 27. The method of providing information of Claim 23 further
2 comprising:

3 downloading an application to a handheld computing device
4 from an access device.

1 28. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the communications network includes:

3 a server coupled to the communications network, the server
4 including a database of information relating to locations within the site,
5 information relating to the site and information relating to users of the
6 site.

1 29. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to a ski resort.

1 30. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to an airport.

1 31. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to a convention center.

1 32. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to an amusement park.

1 33. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to a campus.

1 34. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to a cruise ship.

1 35. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein
2 the requested information relates to a an off-site location.

1 36. The method of providing information of Claim 26, wherein
2 the terminal device is a handheld computer including a radio frequency
3 transceiver.

1 37. The method of providing information of Claim 36, wherein
2 the communications network includes at least one RF transceiver coupled
3 thereto and configured to provide communications with the handheld
4 computer.

1 38. The method of providing information of Claim 37, wherein
2 the RF transceiver of the handheld computer and the RF transceiver of the
3 communications network are configured to use IEEE 802.11 standards.

1 39. The method of providing information of Claim 23, further
2 comprising:
3 debiting a user account according to usage of the
4 communications network.

1 40. The method of providing information of Claim 23, further
2 comprising:
3 debiting a user account for usage of the terminal device.

1 41. The method of providing information of Claim 23, further
2 comprising:
3 purchasing goods or services using a terminal device.